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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ludwig et al.
Appl. No.: 09/675,511
Filed: September 29, 2000
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INACTIVATING VIRAL
CONTAMINANTS
Art Unit: 1651
Examiner: S. Saucier
Docket No.: F-4480 CONT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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JUL 23 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following Amendment in the above-identified patent application.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 40 as follows:

40. A method for inactivating viruses in a body fluid, the method comprising the steps

of:

initially storing an amount of methylene blue in a container that includes an interior and at least one port extending from the container that provides controlled access to the interior, the container is constructed of a plastic material and includes an inner surface made of a non-polyvinyl chloride, plastic material;

forming a mixture by adding at least a portion of the amount of the methylene blue to an amount of the body fluid, by use of the port, wherein the portion of methylene blue is a virucidally effective amount of the methylene blue and further wherein the mixture formed is within either the container or in a second container that initially housed the body fluid; and